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## Say We Must Stay in Philippines Because Ending of Our Sovereignty Would Ruin Islands

Newton W. Gilbert, former Vice-Governor General and Acting Governor General of the Philippines, speaking before the Foreign Policy Association at last week's meeting in the Hotel Astor, said that independence for the Filipinos would be bad for them, bad for us and bad for peace and stability in the Far East.

"We have worked ourselves into a rather unfortunate position," Judge Gilbert said. "It is true that our public men—some of them Presidents—have said that they were going to give the Islands independence some time. Of course, these were not authoritative statements. Nevertheless, the Filipinos, without our experience in public affairs, have taken them as binding.

"The present condition is very unsatisfactory. My experience of eleven years in the Islands taught me that the Filipinos are a very friendly and wonderful people and that they don't dislike us. They want independence because it has been talked to them by the politicians. Many men are advocating independence who hope they won't get it.

"They haven't enough money to develop their natural resources, and they need our money, but capital is going there less and less as agitation continues. Their separation would mean that they would be deprived of our tax-free market, which increases the value of their products \$40,000,000.

"We can't give them independence now, and one reason is that it would ruin them, and many of them know it. The Filipinos already have every right that we mean when we talk about freedom."

Judge Daniel R. Williams, author of the latest authoritative book on the subject, "The United States and the

### FINANCIAL POSITION OF PHILIPPINES SOUND

The financial condition of the Philippine government was sound at the end of the year 1924, according to preliminary figures obtained by Insular Auditor Ben. F. Wright. The surplus at the beginning of the current year is expected to show an increase over the year before, Wright stated, basing his estimate on incomplete returns available. Last year's surplus was \$77,819,542.

Philippines" (Doubleday, Page & Company), and a former member of the Philippine judiciary, said:

"I believe it would be a tragedy for the Filipino people if the United States withdrew its sovereignty. We have raised their standards of living so that they couldn't compete with Chinese and Japanese cheap labor. They enjoy every advantage that we in the United States do and pay \$3 a year for it, per capita, whereas the cost here is \$67."

Vincente Villamin, Filipino economist and lawyer, said that if the present tariff protection of the Philippines were to be abolished, 70 per cent of the economic products of the Islands would be adversely affected.

### Auto Imports Rise

During the first nine months of 1924 automobile imports into the Philippines were almost double those for the corresponding period in 1923, official figures show. The nine months' total for 1924 was \$1,351,238.

## Powerful Radio Will Link Philippines With Wide World

With the establishment in the Philippines of one of the greatest radio stations in the world, plans for which are being put through by the Radio Corporation of America, the Islands will be in instant communication with the United States and with the stations already established at other Far East points.

The new station will be one of the four largest in the world and will cost about \$4,000,000. It is expected to be ready for operation well within two years. The capacity of the station will be 1,000,000 words a day.

In commenting upon the advantages to be derived from the betterment of external and internal communications by the radio, a recent editorial in the Manila "Times" says in part:

"Most of the inhabitants of the Philippines are segregated into small groups, cut off from communication with each other and the outside world. The diversity of dialects and lack of friendly feeling between different sections is due largely to this fact.

"Linking up the Islands by radio with each other and the outside world should make for a better national spirit among Filipinos, and end the comparative isolation from which the Philippines have suffered hitherto."

## Americans Decrease in Civil Service Jobs

A decrease of 42 Americans in the Philippine civil service was recorded in the year ending July 1, 1924, according to official figures just issued in Manila. On that date there were 562 Americans in the service as against 14,668 Filipinos.



## Filipinos Recognize Gen. Wood's Sincerity So Campaign of Vituperation Fails

Under the heading "Why Not Co-operate Openly," the Manila "Times" says in a recent editorial:

"It has been evident to all that since the American elections, and even before, our local 'crisis' between the politico element and the governor general was a thing of the past. Both sides have been co-operating effectively, and though feeble attempts have been made to give voters the impression that there was still an 'issue' with the governor, these outbursts have been so obviously artificial that they have deceived nobody.

### Politics Fail

"The plain facts are that the anti-Wood demonstration has failed lamentably, with a disastrous effect on the fortunes of the local political leaders, not only in the States, where it was doomed to disaster because of the great popularity of General Wood, but even in the Philippines. The Filipino people, or that section of them who take an interest in politics without actively participating therein, realize that the governor, throughout, has acted in their best interests. The campaign of vituperation has been a complete, flat failure, and the fact that it has been a failure is the best evidence of the slow but sound judgment of the people, as contrasted with the froth and fuming of the politicos.

### Plea for Co-operation

"This being the case, why not get down to business and co-operate openly? Although three or four political leaders have lost prestige, it must be remembered that there is nobody to replace them. The Islands will still have to get along with Messrs. Osmena, Quezon, Recto, Roxas, and a few others, because there is nobody of sufficient training and experience to take their places. These gentlemen are still safe on their perch. But they have a choice of sitting there and doing little, or of working with the executive on a real program of Philippine welfare. It has been demonstrated that they get nowhere by the contrary course. They will have to co-operate tacitly or openly. Why not do it openly, and really accomplish something?

"Filipinos are a patient race, but even they are getting tired of the bunk handed out to them by the political class. We believe they would favor a change in the tactics of their leaders, however novel the experience might be."

### MORE PHILIPPINE MAPS

A new shipment of lithographed maps of the Philippine Islands in four colors has just been received from Manila and will be sent free on request. The first consignment, received several weeks ago, was rapidly used by commercial firms and business men's organizations all over the country. Requests should be addressed to Philippine Progress, Room 1108, 66 Broadway, New York City.

## SEES JAPANESE MENACE IF U. S. WITHDRAWS

That the Japanese are sure to cast an acquisitive eye toward the Philippines, once American sovereignty is withdrawn, is the opinion of Professor Herbert L. Willet of the University of Chicago who recently visited Manila on a world tour. In the course of an interview printed in the Manila "Daily Bulletin," Professor Willet said:

"The American administration is seeking to follow a policy here which will be to the interests of the people of the Philippines primarily, and does not wish to take any steps which will prove unwise in the future.

"The Islands are confronted with a very material and serious question in their relations with Japan. While the United States has any interest here of a direct nature there will be no question of Japan seeking to become interested in the Philippines, but should America withdraw suddenly and leave the Islands to shift for themselves, I do not think it will be long until the Japanese would become involved in local questions, and the end would probably be that the Japanese would come into control here."

## Gov. Wood Authorizes \$3,000,000 New Bonds

Governor General Leonard Wood has just signed a bill authorizing the Metropolitan Water District of Manila to issue bonds in the amount of \$3,000,000 for the purpose of extending the city's water supply system. Part of the issue will probably be floated in the United States early this year, and the remainder as needed.

## Philippine Government Quits Cattle Venture Because of Losses

The Philippine government has just sold the last of the cattle herds which it owned as backer of subsidized cattle enterprises on the Island of Mindanao. These enterprises were fostered under the Harrison administration, but have proved a losing investment, as have most of the government business ventures undertaken during that regime.

The total government investment in cattle ranches in the provinces of Cotabato, Sulu and Lanao was about \$125,000. The total amount realized by the government leaves a loss of about \$50,000 on the original investment.

Director Sanvictores of the bureau of Non-Christian tribes has resigned from the government service to take over the management of one of the ranches, purchased by Alejandro Roces, a prominent Manila newspaper publisher.

## GOVERNMENT TO HELP FILIPINO PRODUCERS

Establishment and stimulation of chambers of commerce in municipalities and provinces in order to promote co-operation among Philippine farmers, is planned by the Philippine bureau of agriculture as part of its program for 1925. These organizations are also expected to foster community spirit and advance community interests in general.

At the same time, the government is contemplating the formation of simple co-operative buying and marketing organizations among Filipino producers, starting with the tobacco growers. Growers of rice, coconut and other important crops will be similarly assisted, according to responsible government officials.

## Noted Author Talks to Filipino Students

Frederick O'Brien, author of "White Shadows in the South Seas," in the course of a speech before the students of the University of the Philippines recently said:

"Your progress must be credited to America alone. You do not owe it to Spain or to any other nation.

"During my stay in your country I witnessed the transformation that has taken place. I had occasion to know your land before most of you here were born. This gathering of students, destined to be future leaders of the race, gives me the impression of the great intellectual changes that have taken place, and you owe it all to America."

